

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, DECEMBER, 1945.

To the Chairman and Members Eastfields,
of the Uttoxeter Rural District Council. UTT O X E T E R.
December, 1946.

Gentlemen,

I again have the honour of presenting my Annual Report for the Uttoxeter Rural District for the year 1945.

The District comprises several small villages over an area of 55228 acres and is chiefly given up to agriculture and dairy farming. The population has been estimated at 9,400. a decrease of 180 from the previous year. The rateable value is £30,907. and a penny rate produces a nett sum of £24.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.- There were 185 live births in and belonging to the district, 103 boys and 82 girls, which gives a birth rate of 19.68 compared with 16.1 the birth rate for England and Wales. There were 10 still births which is rather a high proportion, two of these being illegitimate children. There were also 14 illegitimate children among the live births.

Deaths.- There were 134 deaths which is a death rate of 14.25.

Infantile mortality.- Seven infants died under one year of age all legitimate children which gives an infantile mortality death rate of 37.8. There were not any deaths from puerperal sepsis or other puerperal causes. There were two deaths from influenza but none from other infectious diseases or infantile diarrhoea.

There were 18 deaths from cancer and the other principal causes of death were brain diseases 11, heart diseases 35, bronchitis and other lung diseases excluding tuberculosis 8, tuberculosis 2 and 19 from accidents.

Provision of Health Services are unchanged. Home Nursing and health visiting are undertaken as usual by the various district nurses. There are no hospitals in the district for general or special treatment, nor is there any maternity accommodation.

Sanitary Circumstances.-

Housing.- Housing schemes have been adopted for various parts of the district and progress has been very satisfactory. Several houses have been completed and many others are near completion, and I am very pleased to say that your district has been one of the most advanced in the whole country.

Water Supply.- This is dealt with rather more fully than usual. The South Staffordshire Waterworks supply the villages of Abbots Bromley, Blithfield, Draycott, Newborough, Marchington, Kingstone and Bramshall. The Uttoxeter Urban District supply in bulk from their Crumpwood springs the villages of Denstone, Rocester and Stramshall. The village of Leigh gets a supply from the Cheadle water works. These are all good waters and are examined by the district supplying them. The village of Mayfield has its own small public supply which has been found bacteriologically to be a good safe water. The rest of the district has various private wells some of which are liable to get contaminated, but I hope in time all districts will get a public piped supply.

Sewerage.- The villages of Stramshall and Denstone have small sewage disposal works. The rest of the district is badly provided for and must have attention in the near future with the building of more houses

with bathrooms and water closets.

There is no regular public scavenging but in some parts of the district arrangements are made for collecting dry refuse.

Infectious Diseases.- Isolation and treatment of these when necessary is undertaken by arrangement with the Mid Staffordshire Joint Hospital Board at their various isolation hospitals, patients being fetched in their ambulance. Notifications received during the year were Scarlet fever 20 cases, 3 being in the 1 to 3 years of age group, 9 in the 5 to 10 group, 6 in the 10 to 15 group, and 2 in the 15 to 25 group. Whooping cough 11 cases, 2 under 1 year of age, 5 in the 1 to 3 group, 2 in the 3 to 5 group, 1 in the 5 to 10 and 1 in the 10 to 15 group. Measles 53 cases, 4 under 1 year of age, 11 in the 1 to 3 group, 7 in the 3 to 5 group, 23 in the 5 to 10 group, 4 in the 10 to 15 group, 3 in the 15 to 25 group and 1 case age not stated. Pneumonia 1 case, Acute poliomyelitis, 1 case, Erysipelas 3 cases, and Ophthalmia neonatorum 1 case.

There were not any cases of diphtheria and diphtheria immunisation has been carried out as usual, 29 children under 5 years of age and 2 between 5 and 15 years have received treatment.

Tuberculosis.- No action was required under the Prevention of tuberculosis regulations. During the year I received notification of 1 case of pulmonary tuberculosis and 1 case of tubercular meningitis. There were two deaths from tuberculosis, 1 pulmonary a female aged 63 and 1 non pulmonary a female 13 years of age. This gives a death rate of .21 for these diseases.

Yours faithfully,

G. HEYWOOD HERBERT.

Medical Officer of Health.

